

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-10 SSO-00 /016 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 008389

S/S FOR ASST SECY SISCO

FOLLOWING REPEAT ANKARA 0264 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ISTANBUL,
IZMIR & ADANA DATED 13 JAN 74:

QTE

S E C R E T ANKARA 0264

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, TU

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SHOWDOWN COMING THIS NEXT WEEK OVER FORMATION
OF NEW GOVERNMENT

REFERENCES: (A) ANKARA 0262; (B) USDAO ANKARA 39 DTG 131230Z
(NOTAL)

1. SINCE DISPATCH REFTTEL (A), EVIDENCE IS ACCUMULATING THAT
THE MILITARY AND POLITICIANS ARE HEADING FOR A SHOW-DOWN
THIS NEXT WEEK OVER THE LONG STALEMATE IN FORMING A GOVERNMENT.

2. MILITARY LEADERS APPEAR TO BE INCREASINGLY RUTHLESS AND
APPLYING PRESSURE TO FORM PROMPTLY A GOVERNMENT ACCEPTABLE
TO THEM. RE LATTER, THE MILITARY APPEAR TO BE OPPOSED TO
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A MINORITY GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS TO ALLOWING THE NATIONAL

SALVATION PARTY AN INFLUENTIAL ROLE IN ANY GOVERNMENT (E.G., IN AN RPP-NSP COALITION). THEY APPEAR TO BE SEEKING INSTEAD EITHER A BROAD NATIONAL COALITION OR AN RPP-JP COALITION.

3. ON COLLISION COURSE WITH THIS, HOWEVER, ARE STRONG INDICATIONS THAT RPP LEADER ECEVIT WILL NOW QUICKLY PIECE TOGETHER AN RPP-NSP COALITION WHICH, THROUGH ITS COMBINED VOTE, WILL CONSTITUTE A MAJORITY IN PARLIAMENT.

4. IF ECEVIT REACHES FINAL AGREEMENT WITH THE NSP, WE THINK THE MILITARY COULD GO EITHER WAY. THEY COULD INTERVENE FOR REASONS NOTED ABOVE, BUT OUR EVIDENCE IS NOT YET HARD ENOUGH TO RULE OUT THEIR ACCEPTING SUCH A COALITION FOR THE TIME BEING, DEFERRING A DECISION ON INTERVENTION UNTIL THEY HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO JUDGE THIS COALITION'S EARLY PERFORMANCE. MACOMBER UNQTE RUSH

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